

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

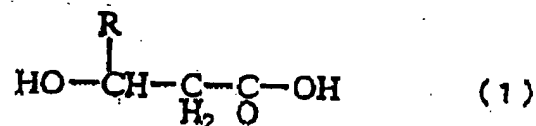
Please amend claims 1-3, 7-16, 18, 19, 21, and 22, cancel claim 4, and add claims 24 and 25 as shown below. The pending claims are as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A transformant

wherein at least one ~~kind of~~ gene expression cassette, comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene, a promoter and a terminator, has been introduced into a yeast which belongs to any of the genera *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Phaffia*, *Pichia*, *Schizosaccharomyces*, *Schwanniomyces*, *Trichosporon*, and *Yarrowia*.

2. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

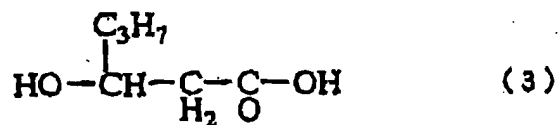
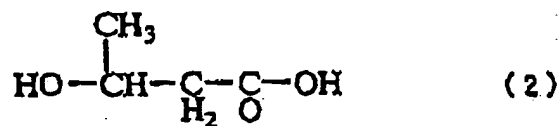
wherein ~~the~~ a polyester which is obtained using said gene expression cassette is a copolymer resulting from the to copolymerization of 3-hydroxyalkanoic acids of the following general formula (1);



in the formula, R represents an alkyl group.

3. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1

wherein ~~the~~ a polyester which is obtained using said gene expression cassette is a copolyester P(~~3HB-co-3HH~~) resulting from the copolymerization of 3-hydroxybutyric acid of the following formula (2) and 3-hydroxyhexanoic acid of the following formula (3);



4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously presented) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein the yeast is *Yarrowia lipolytica*.
6. (Previously presented) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein the yeast is *Candida maltosa*.
7. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1 wherein ~~a polyester synthesis associated enzyme gene expression cassette comprises a promoter and a terminator,~~
said promoter and said terminator ~~functioning~~ function in a the yeast.
8. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter and terminator are ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica*.
9. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica* ALK3.
10. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the terminator is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica* XPR2.
11. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter and terminator are ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa*.
12. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the promoter is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1.
13. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 7 wherein the terminator is ~~derived~~ isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1.

14. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1
wherein the polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene is ~~derived~~ isolated from
Aeromonas caviae.
15. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 1
wherein the polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene is comprises a ~~PHA~~
polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene ~~derived~~ isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* or a ~~PHA~~ the
polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene and a (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene.
16. (Currently amended) The transformant according to Claim 15
wherein said ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene has the sequence represented by
SEQ ID NO:3
and the (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID
NO:4.
17. (Previously presented) A method of producing a polyester using the transformant
according to Claim 1
which comprises growing said transformant and harvesting a polyester from the
resulting culture.
18. (Currently amended) A An isolated polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene
wherein which is modified from at least one gene code codon CTG ~~to~~ is replaced with
codon TTA, TTG, CTT, CTC or CTA, and said gene functions in a yeast which translates the
codon CTG into serine.
19. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to
Claim 18 which codes for an enzyme ~~derived~~ isolated from a bacterium.
20. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 19

wherein said bacterium is *Aeromonas caviae*.

21. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 20 wherein the enzyme gene ~~derived~~ isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* is a ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene or a (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene.
22. (Currently amended) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said ~~PHA~~ polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3.
23. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4.
24. (New) The transformant according to Claim 1, wherein said yeast belongs to the genus *Yarrowia*.
25. (New) The transformant according to Claim 1, wherein said yeast belongs to the genus *Candida*.